Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission

PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Randy Cohen Phone: 202-904-1041 Date: February 20, 2004

TAKOMA PARK COMMUNITY MURALS PROJECT TO BE UNVEILED TO THE PUBLIC MARCH 20, 2004

The Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission will unveil its Community Murals Project on Saturday, March 20, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. at the Takoma Park Municipal Building. The event is free and open to the public.

Nearly 30 community groups from Takoma Park are painting 4' x 4' murals about, "What it means to live in Takoma Park." The murals will be hung outside of the Municipal Building, which is currently undergoing a major renovation, and are expected to hang for the duration of the construction period, estimated to be 18 months. Participating organizations include the Westmoreland Area Community Organization, Takoma Park Cooperative Nursery School, Liz Lerman Dance Exchange, and the Takoma Foundation (complete list available on Page 2). More than 20 members of the community worked on Saturday, January 17 at the Municipal Center coating wood panels with primer and caulk in anticipation of making their original creations.

Members of the Arts and Humanities Commission expect the original paintings will reflect the many dimensions that comprise Takoma Park. "The Community Murals Project will draw people back to their Municipal Center," says Randy Cohen, chairman of the Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission. "The murals will promote a shared sense of community, demonstrate our diversity, and, quite simply, bring beauty to our city Center."

The March 20 event will offer the opportunity to view all of the murals. Free refreshments, a jazz band, and photo opportunities will also be provided. Welcoming remarks will be given by Takoma Park mayor, Kathy Porter; members of the City Council; and Theresa Cameron, executive director of the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County.

The Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission was established by the City Council in February 2003 to advise the city on arts-related matters. Fifteen community volunteers, each appointed by the Council, comprise the Commission.

(More . . .)

Takoma Park Organizations Participating in the Community Murals Project

Afternoon Addition

Brownie Troop #379

Cadet Troop #253

Forum for Youth Investment

Friends of Sligo Creek

Historic Takoma

Historic Takoma Theater

Junior Girl Scout Troup #2986

Liz Lerman Dance Exchange

Piney Branch Elementary School

Rolling Terrace Elementary School

Silver Foxes

Takoma Academy/Takoma Langley Crossroads CDA

Takoma and Langley Parks Bike Collective

Takoma Children's School

Takoma Foundation

Takoma Park Middle School

Takoma Park Coop

Takoma Park Cooperative Nursery School

Takoma Park Silver Spring Babe Ruth Baseball League

Takoma Park Home Learning Network

Takoma Park Mediation Board

Takoma Park Arts & Humanities Commission

Takoma Tower Resident Association

Takoma Voice

Ritchie Neighborhood Association

Westmoreland Area Community Organization (WACO)